

Doctoral or postdoctoral researcher at the Research Centre SENECA, University of Venice, Italy

The Research Centre SENECA (Social and Economic NETWORKS and Coalitions Analysis) was recently set up at the Department of Economics of the University of Venice, as part of a general effort to promote and coordinate the research activity carried out by department members, PhD students and various other researchers who collaborate with the Department of Economics. The mission of SENECA is to produce high level research on the topics of network and coalition formation. In particular, recent research of its members has focused on the analysis of integration and segregation of social networks, of games of incomplete information played on networks, on information sharing in networks and groups, on network formation in games with spillovers.

SENECA will appoint a doctoral or postdoctoral researcher for the academic year 2008-2009, with a scholarship of 19,000 Euro before taxes. The appointed researcher will have no teaching duties at all, but will be required to spend the whole period at the Department of Economics, possibly participating in joint research projects with the Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei, which is co-funding the position. The ideal candidate will be a doctoral or post doctoral student in the issue of network formation; although the position is meant for theoretical research, some skills in computer simulations and computing are highly appreciated. The candidate will be given office space, and is expected to attend the weekly Departmental Theory Seminars, the weekly PhD seminars, and to interact with local PhD students and visitors.

The candidate will be involved to some degree in the following research projects, under the coordination of Prof. Sergio Currarini:

1. Segregation, integration and colonization in social networks. The purpose is here to develop models of formation of social networks and of behaviour in social networks that help explain observed patterns of social segregation, predict the effect of alternative integration policies and estimate their welfare impact. Given the relevance and the scarcity of data, this project will involve aspects of data collection and empirical analysis.
2. Incomplete information and information sharing in networks. Research is here focused on the study of the incentives to share, reveal and acquire information. While the ex-ante model has been studied in the case of information-sharing groups, and is being studied for the case of sharing networks, the interim case is still mainly unexplored.
3. Trade Networks. This project aims to characterize the structure of trade flows and of prices when markets are local and traders are competitive. The concept of “graphical equilibrium” has been recently introduced in the literature for exogenously given networks, while nothing has been said about the structure of trade flows that would result from decentralized trades on locally clearing markets.

Applicants should submit the following:

- A curriculum vitae in .pdf format;
- An outline of the research interests of the applicant.

Please send the requested documentation by e-mail to:

Prof. Carlo Carraro
Chairman, Department of Economics
Department of Economics, University of Venice
S. Giobbe 873, 30121 Venice, Italy
e-mail: ccarraro@unive.it

Deadline for application: January 18, 2008.

Additional information on the SENECA research centre is available at the Department of Economics webpage:
<http://www.dse.unive.it/centri-e-partners/seneca/>